

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

### Abstract

The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to because it fails to set forth a concise statement of that subject matter, which Applicants regard as their contribution to the art to which the invention pertains. In response, a new Abstract has been provided for the Examiner's consideration and approval.

### Specification

The specification has been amended to place such in better form. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

### Claims Status

Claims 61 through 80 are now pending in the application. Claims 1 through 60 have been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added. Claims 61 and 77 through 80 are the independent claims pending in the application.

### Claim Objections

Claims 14 and 35 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

Claims 3 through 13, 15 through 17, 19/9, 22 through 29, 30/28, 31/30/28, 32 through 34, 36 through 38, 40/30/28, 43 through 50, 51/49, 52 through 58, and 59/49/41 are merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be

allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### Section 103 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 18, 19/1, 20, 21, 30/20, 39, 40/30/20, 41, 42, 51/41, and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,137,972 (Playfair, et al.). The rationale underlying the foregoing rejection is succinctly set forth in the Official Action.

#### Response to Objections and Rejection

The cancellation of Claims 1 through 60 render the above-noted claim objections and rejections moot. Accordingly, further comment on the rejections is not necessary. However, the following comments are provided for the Examiner's consideration.

Playfair, et al. discloses an image material dispensing system wherein a container cap is gripped by a snap-lock mechanism of an image forming apparatus. The cap is pushed into the container to unseal the container. When the container is to be exchanged, the snap-locked cap to reseal the container. After resealing, the snap-lock mechanism is released.

Playfair, et al. does not disclose or suggest any structure for unsealing a bottle by moving a sealing portion relative to a container away therefrom or any structure for disengaging an engageable projection from an engaging member as recited in the independent claims.

Dependent Claims

Claims 52 through 76 depend directly from Claim 61 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency and in their own right for further defining Applicants' invention.

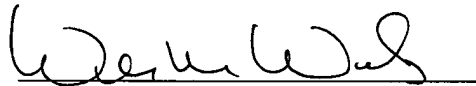
Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Closing Comments

It is respectfully submitted that the claims on file are allowable over the art of record and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,



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